

TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES

OF

THE GEORGIA

ACADEMY FOR THE BLIND,

MACON, GA.

1875.

ATLANTA, GEORGIA:

R. A. ALSTON, PUBLIC PRINTER.

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TRUSTEES:

JAMES MERCER GREEN, *President.*

L. N. WHITTLE,

WASHINGTON POE,

HENRY L. JEWETT, *Treasurer.*

PETER SOLOMON,

VIRGIL POWERS,

C. A. NUTTING,

W. D. WILLIAMS, *Secretary.*

Officers of the Academy.

W. D. WILLIAMS, A. M., *Principal.*

MISS H. GUILLAN,

V. CZURDA.

ASSISTANTS :

MISS S. V. COLEY,

J. T. COLEY.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

To His Excellency, JAMES M. SMITH,

Governor of Georgia :

SIR: I submit the following as the Report of the Trustees of the Georgia Academy for the Blind, for the year 1875, in doing which, we refer mainly to the accompanying Reports of the Treasurer and the Principal, as containing all the information necessary to be given.

The Treasurer's Reports show the condition of the finances of the Institution as follows :

Unexpended balance of 1874.....	\$ 915 37	
State appropriation for 1875.....	13,000 00	
Board and tuition.....	130 00	—\$14,045 37
Disbursement in orders to the Principal.....		12,540 00

Balance unexpended.....\$ 1,505 00

The Report of the Principal gives the expenditures of the year, classified under fourteen heads. His statements of accounts have been made to the Board, as heretofore, in monthly reports, and have been duly audited, and the papers filed. The balance in the Treasurer's hands will be required for the maintenance of the Academy until the next appropriation shall have been made.

In regard to the economy of the management, the Board refers as proof, to the fact that the average expense per pupil, notwithstanding some special extraordinary expenditures for outfit and repairs, has been but \$233 36 this year. In comparison with the charges for board and tuition generally made in the seminaries of this State, this is a very favorable exhibit; and it is also much below the general average

of kindred institutions in other States, as may be seen by reference to the statistics of the institutions for the education of the blind, or for the deaf and dumb, given by the National Bureau of Education, in the last report of the Commissioner. If, however, this low rate was brought about by the sacrifice of any interest of the Academy, or any disregard of the objects of the Institution, or by a failure in any manner to provide properly for the wants of the blind committed to our charge, the Board would regard it as reprehensible economy; but, on the contrary, they have no cause to apprehend delinquency in any of these respects.

The Trustees refer to the Principal's Report for the statistics of the Institution, for the progress of its work, for the condition of the property, and for the estimates for the sum necessary for the maintenance of the Academy for the next year.

The sum of thirteen thousand dollars was the appropriation for maintenance made by the Legislature at its last session, and was found sufficient for that purpose. The repairs and improvements referred to by the Principal, are generally the same as those named in the report of last year by this Board. The repairs are needed, and the improvements important and very desirable.

The Board, therefore, ask from the Legislature the appropriation of *thirteen thousand dollars* for the regular support of the Academy, and *two thousand dollars* for repairs and improvements for the ensuing year.

Another matter the Board would take occasion to mention. It is now time to take into consideration the interests of the blind of the colored population of the State. The existence of blind colored children has in no instance been reported to the authorities of the Institution, and it is probable that they are not

very numerous in the State. The cases of quite a number of blind adults, too old to derive benefit from the school department, but not too old to receive industrial training, have been reported. Their cases have been brought to our knowledge by benevolent persons, by their former owners, and by county authorities, and this Board is giving consideration to the subject of opening a department for their benefit. Should the appropriation for repairs and improvements be made, and our proposed work shops be erected, a number of these might be received as apprentices, and the business of their mechanical training be begun. Should there arise a necessity for opening a school for colored youths, as time will develope, the Board would be in condition to take into consideration provisions for that purpose in a separate institution, under the present organization, and with no great amount of additional expense.

In conclusion, the Trustees hardly think it necessary to renew their annual commendation of the Officers, who have so long and satisfactorily administered the affairs of the Academy, viz: Principal Williams, Miss H. Guilan, who has been connected with it from the beginning, and Mr. V. Czurda, the Musical Director. They also commend Mr. J. T. Coley and Miss S. V. Coley, the young assistants.

By order of the Board.

JAMES MERCER GREEN,
President.

Academy for the Blind, Macon, Dec. 13, 1875.

*The Georgia Academy for the Blind in Account
with Henry L. Jewett, Treasurer.*

Dr.

1874.		
Dec. 21...	To paid draft, James Mercer Green, President....	\$ 800 00
1875.		
March 11.	To paid draft, James Mercer Green, President....	1,200 00
March 13.	To paid draft, James Mercer Green, President....	1,200 00
March 30.	To paid draft, James Mercer Green, President....	840 00
April 12..	To paid draft, James Mercer Green, President....	1,000 00
June 19..	To paid draft, James Mercer Green, President....	2,250 00
July 28...	To paid draft, James Mercer Green, President ...	1,000 00
Sept. 14..	To paid draft, P. Solomon, President pro tem....	1,600 00
Oct. 12...	To paid draft, James Mercer Green, President....	650 00
Nov. 30..	To paid draft, James Mercer Green, President....	2,000 00
	To balance carried to new account.....	1,505 37

\$14,045 37

*The Georgia Academy for the Blind in Account
with Henry L. Jewett, Treasurer.*

Cr.

1874.		
Dec. 18..	By balance from last year	\$ 915 37
1875.		
March 11	By cash on account State appropriation for 1875, per W. D. Williams, Principal.....	3,250 00
March 11	By cash for board and tuition of Hattie Dyson, per W. D. Williams, Principal.....	130 00
April 27.	By cash on account of State appropriation second quarter, 1875, per W. D. Williams, Principal	3,250 00
July 28.	By cash on account State appropriation third quar- ter, 1875, per W. D. Williams, Principal....	3,250 00
Nov. 3..	By cash on account State appropriation fourth quarter, 1875.....	3,250 00
		\$14,045 37
Nov. 30.	By balance brought to new account.....	\$ 1,505 37

Respectfully submitted.

(Signed)

HENRY L. JEWETT,

Treasurer.

Macon, Dec. 1, 1875.

REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL.

To the Trustees of the Georgia Academy for the Blind.

GENTLEMEN : I submit herewith my Report as Principal, of the affairs of "The Georgia Academy for the Blind," for the calender year 1875.

The number of blind youths under training in the three Departments, reported last year, was *fifty-one*. Of these *five* were discharged, or left the Institution, and one died ; therefore we began the present year with *forty-five*. During this year we have received nine new pupils, which makes the number on our roll *fifty-four*—not so many as we anticipated. We have received and accepted the applications for admission for some others, and are expecting them daily to be sent to the school. Two of those now present with us are employed generally as teachers, but still receive some instruction, and two others also give assistance in teaching, in both music and literature, in the intervals of their studies.

HEALTH.

In a household like ours, composed mostly of children and young persons, of defective natures—many of them also of feeble or diseased organization, of which their blindness itself is the result—entire or universal health would be a marvel.

We have had this year some cases of sickness : but three of them were of a serious character ; two yielded to medical treatment, one died. In recording the death of a pupil there is a natural feeling of pain and regret, but in the case of such a young man as William T. Baily, of Gordon County, was, so full of intel-

ligence and promise, so worthy as an example of Christian life, so attached to us, and we to him, by pleasant association, the natural emotion rises to an abiding sorrow, solaced only by the considerations that made him "Willing either to live and suffer, or to die, according to the pleasure of the Heavenly Father." His sickness was consumption, with which he struggled many months, and returned to us a few days after our last vacation, only to die and be buried from the Institution.

PROGRESS OF THE PUPILS.

The school work has been diligently pursued by both teachers and pupils in all departments, and the results have been most satisfactory. Our exhibitions and concerts, always well attended and appreciated by intelligent and discerning persons, attest the success of our pupils in the department of Music and Literature.

In the department of Handicraft, our boys being mostly very young, have done merely apprentice work in the intervals when they were not employed in the school. Our girls have done much plain work, useful in the house, and also made some articles of fancy work, which, being placed on exhibition, obtained a valuable premium at the last State Fair.

EXPENSES.

The following is a classified account of the expenses of the year, made up from the bills which have been paid since our last annual Report, and constitutes a summary of the entire expenditures since that date.

FIRST—RECEIPTS, 1875.

Balance on hand from 1874	\$ 79 97
Orders of the Board during 1875	12,540 00—\$12,619 97

SECOND—DISBURSEMENTS, 1875.

1. Salaries.....	\$3,252 04	
2. Postage and Stationery.....	44 17	
3. Traveling Expenses.....	117 25	
4. School Expenses.....	82 24	
5. Music Expenses.	760 75	
6. Pupils' Clothes.....	623 53	
7. House Furnishing.....	499 29	
8. Servant Hire.....	575 75	
9. Fuel and Lights.....	1,021 85	
10. Provisions.....	3,865 75	
11. Special Items.....	596 92	
12. Repairs.....	875 09	
13. Housekeeping.....	276 00	
14. Special Instruction.....	11 00—	\$12,601 63
Balance on hand.....		\$ 18 36

I remark on the above, that the several items of the list do not vary very much from those given generally in our annual statements, with the exception of the fifth and twelfth. The fifth is made extraordinary by including in the amount the purchase of a Steinway Grand Piano, which was very much needed, as we had no instrument worthy of a place in our chapel concerts and exhibitions. The piano was bought at a greatly reduced price, and proves to be a very fine instrument. The twelfth item (repairs) was swelled by the addition to the usual average sum so expended, of a balance in excess of the appropriation made for improvements and repairs for the year 1874, and by some other extraordinary incidental expenses chargeable to this head. Notwithstanding these two exceptions, (and including them) the increments and decrements of the general average nearly balance each other, and give the average expense, per pupil enrolled, of two hundred and thirty-three 36-100 dollars. Last year the average was about two hundred and thirty-seven dollars.

CONDITION OF PROPERTY.

The house needs many small repairs. The last report mentions some of them. The plastering of the ceiling of the upper story, on account of former leaks in the roof, is much broken up, and occasionally fragments fall, which somewhat endangers the occupants of that floor, and creates some uneasiness. Many of the blinds of the house need renewal or repairs. Much repainting ought to be done, both for the sake of the better preservation and good appearance of the doors, windows, wash-boards and other wooden parts. An elevator, extending from basement to garret, for the purpose of transferring from story to story weighty objects, and pupils too feeble to run up and down stair steps without injury and inconvenience, would be a very desirable addition to our arrangements. The two rooms left unfinished for lack of funds, as mentioned in our last report, remain so. Another want mentioned last year is still urgent. It is that of a workshop for males outside the main buildings, without which we cannot prosecute the mechanical training of our young men with much success and advantage and at all seasons of the year. The grounds need some proper grading and improved sewerage to discharge the slops from the houses and the water that falls upon the roofs and yards. These several objects are required for the better preservation of the property; the greater comfort and health of the household; the increased convenience and facility of our work, and the more sightly appearance of the premises. Additions have been made to our stock of books, musical instruments and tangible apparatus, the supply of which is now ample, and the same is in good condition.

ESTIMATES.

For the usual maintenance, which includes salaries of teachers and officers, postage, stationery, traveling,

school and music expenses, pupils' clothing, house-furnishing, servant hire, fuel, lights, provisions, insurance, printing, medicine and medical attention, small repairs and house-keeping, etc., the same appropriation—*thirteen thousand dollars*—which we had last year, would be sufficient; but when we add to these necessities, which are somewhat regular and annual, an amount sufficient to cover, in addition thereto, the improvements and repairs, before suggested, I think the Board of Trustees should ask the Legislature for an appropriation of *fifteen thousand*, for the wants of "The Academy for the Blind," for the year 1876. In making these estimates, I am guided by my experience in the management of the internal affairs of the Academy, acquired through many years of service, both as to what is required and what we lack, and the Board will remember, that while I take pride in creditable appearances and suitable arrangements, and while I am ever anxious to secure every facility and advantage for the education and training of our pupils, and every proper comfort and convenience for the inmates of the house, that I have not been the advocate of expensive measures and extravagance in the maintenance of this or any other public charity. I well know the abounding compassion of the people of Georgia towards the suffering, and their munificence in measurers of relief, but I do not base a presumption upon a recognition of this feeling in asking this increased appropriation. I think it rather a matter proper in itself now, and tending towards a better economy in the management in the future.

As a matter of some interest, and also to show what is being done for the education of the blind in the United States, I make, from the report of the Commissioner of Education for 1874, the following abstract, giving the several institutions, their number of pupils, and the sum of their expenditures for that year :

	Pupils.	Expen'srs.
1 Alabama*	16	\$ 16,000
2 Arkansas.....	38	18,160
3 California*	31	35,983
4 Georgia.....	51	15,000
5 Illinois.....	107	22,284
6 Indiana.....	109	38,235
7 Iowa.....	104	21,500
8 Kansas.....	28	8,880
9 Kentucky.....	65	22,779
10 Louisiana.....	25	8,000
11 Maryland (white.).....	55	18,265
12 Maryland (colored.).....	14	10,000
13 Massachusetts.....	156	73,139
14 Michigan*	26	48,000
15 Mississippi.....	36	
16 Minnesota*	22	26,000
17 Missouri.....	110	23,500
18 New York State.....	150	48,389
19 New York City.....	173	124,177
20 North Carolina*	77	40,000
21 Ohio.....	136	
22 Oregon (two years).....	8	3,150
23 Pennsylvania.....	203	82,809
24 South Carolina (suspended).....		
25 Tennessee.....	46	50,000
26 Texas.....	38	19,880
27 Virginia*	37	37,445
28 West Virginia*	19	20,403
29 Wisconsin.....	62	25,792

The institutions marked (*) are dual—that is, they have two departments, one for the blind, the other for the deaf and dumb. The number of pupils given belong to the blind department, while the sum of expenditures includes those for both departments.

I again return thanks to the members of the Board for their continued favor, and to my associates for the most kindly co-operation in all the work.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed)

W. D. WILLIAMS,
Principal.

Georgia Academy for the Blind, Dec. 9, 1875.

LIST OF PUPILS---1875.

MALES.

Austin, Charles,	Campbell County.
Ayres, Hiram,	Haralson “
Bailey, William T.,	Gordon “
Barnes, Josephus,	Bibb “
Blalock, P. P.,	South Carolina.
Bruce, John P.,	Decatur County.
Bryan, William,	Wayne “
Burks, John J.,	Henry “
Coley, Jesse A.,	Stewart “
Coley, Jno. T.,	Stewart “
Coley, S. A. W.,	Stewart “
Grace, Walter M.,	Taylor “
Green, William J.,	Macon “
Hendrix, J. G. F.,	Coweta “
Hodnett, Hope,	Meriwether “
Jones, Joseph,	Hall “
Knox, Lamar,	Chattooga “
Mathis, Lucius,	Calhoun “
Peacock, Lewis O.,	Wilkinson “
Peacock, William L.,	Wilkinson “
Ragan, Charles C.,	Terrell “
Ragan, Terrell,	Terrell “
Russell, Joshua,	Jefferson “
Sanders, William,	Quitman “
Singleton, James,	Harris “
Tinsley, Stephen,	Bartow “
Winkles, Andrew J.,	Heard “
Wofford, Jacob,	DeKalb “

FEMALES.

Barfield, Asenath.....	Macon County.	
Beaman, Pauline.....	Bartow	"
Butler, Lolah.....	Gordon	"
Collins, Minna.....	Alabama.	
Coley, Nannie.....	Stewart County.	
Coley, Susan V.....	"	"
Couch, Mattie.....	Jackson	"
Dyson, Hattie.....	Wilkes	"
Edwards, Ella.....	Troup	"
Estes, Serena E.....	Paulding	"
King, Alice.....	Fulton	"
Mapp, Lizzie.....	Fulton	"
McGuire, Kitty.....	Fulton	"
McInvale, Fanny.....	Crawford	"
Perry, M. A.....	Macon	"
Phillips, E. A.....	Gordon	"
Price, Alice.....	Stewart	"
Reed, Carrie.....	Bartow	"
Reed, Susan E.....	Bartow	"
Roquemore, Ida.....	Bibb	"
Russell, Lana.....	Jefferson	"
Stevens, Mamie E.....	Brooks	"
Taylor, Mary A.....	Harris	"
Tison, Martha Elizabeth.....	Washig'n.	"
Williams, Lula.....	Screven	"
Wilson, Virginia.....	Gordon	"

